

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the title with the following:

Integrated Storm Shutter including Latch Pin Corner Connection and/or Center Louver Support Rail

Please replace paragraph 0015 with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 5 shows a cross-section of the FIG. 3 and FIG. 4 example rail engagement members, taken along section line 5-5 as seen from the 5-5 cut line of FIG. 4;

Please replace paragraph 0016 with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 6 shows an example cross-section of the perimeter rails of the FIG. 1 unitary perimeter frame, taken along section line 6-6 viewed from the 6-6 projection of FIG. 2;

Please replace paragraph 0044 with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 6 shows an example cross-section of the perimeter rails 16, 18, 20 and 22, taken along section line 6-6 viewed from the 6-6 projection of FIG. 2, depicting an example channel 26 that receives rail engagement members 24A. Referring to FIGS. 5 and 6 together, it is seen that the cross-section of channel 26 is configured to accommodate the rail engagement member 24A. More particularly, referring to FIG. 6, the example channel 26 has a plurality of first ridges 26A on its side inner surfaces and a plurality of second ridges 268 on its upper and lower inner surfaces. The first ridges 26A contact corresponding lands 240 on two opposite parallel sides of rail engagement member 24A, and the second ridges 268 contact corresponding lands 240 on the other opposite parallel sides of 24A. The spacing between adjacent first ridges 26A, and the spacing between adjacent second ridges 268, is such that these align with the lands 240 on the rail engagement members 24A.

Please replace paragraph 0045 with the following replacement paragraph:

With continuing reference to FIG. 5, the first ridges 26A on the two side opposing and the second ridges 26B on the upper and lower surfaces are spaced with respect to the outer dimensions of the rail engagement members 24A, preferably to form a reasonable, for example, slight interference fit, when these structures are inserted into the channels 26. A slight interference fit may be preferable, as any clearance between the channel 26 and the rail engagement member 24A may allow flexing of unitary perimeter frame 12 that, over time, may decrease the operational life of the shutter. The degree of interference fit, if any, between the ridges 26A and 26B, and the lands 24D ~~26a and 26b, and the lands 24d~~ of the rail engagement member 24A, is based on the desired insertion force at time of manufacture. This in turn is based, in part, on the dimensions of the actual product, and the material of which the corner connection member is formed. This is readily identified, upon reading this description, by persons of ordinary skill in the industrial arts pertaining to shutter manufacture.

Kindly replace paragraph 0066 with the following replacement paragraph:

Referring to FIG. 9, the latch mechanism 44 comprises a latch pin 46, a thumbscrew 48 having a threaded shaft 52, and a latch pin receiver 54. The latch pin 46 passes through a clearance hole 55 ~~hole 54~~ formed in the corner connection member 24. The clearance hole 55 ~~hole 54~~ may be drilled through a standard-form corner connection member 24 or, for example, only certain of the corner connection members may be molded having the hole 55 ~~hole 54~~. A slot having a width slightly larger than the diameter of the threaded shaft 52 ~~shaft 50~~ of the thumbscrew 48 is formed through the bottom wall of the perimeter rail 18, having a length allowing the latch pin 46 to extend into the latch pin receiver 54, for locking the shutter, while allowing the latch pin 46 to be retracted from the latch pin receiver 54, to release the shutter.

Kindly replace paragraph 0067 with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 10 is a perspective view of an example latch pin receiver 54, formed as a camel bracket having a through hole 58 in one of its two side plates 60. The through hole 58 is slightly larger than the latch pin 46, to provide clearance but not so large as to promote excessive movement normal to the pin axis. Referring again to FIG. 9, the latch pin 46 has a tapered end 46A, which allows the pin 46 to seek the through hole 58 when actuated into a locking position, as described below. The latch

pin receiver 54 ~~receiver 50~~ is mounted using, for example, two screws 56 to, for example, an exterior of a building adjacent to a window.